



# LOS ANGELES IN FICTION

REVISED EDITION

A  
COLLECTION  
OF ESSAYS

EDITED BY  
**DAVID FINE**

FROM JAMES H. CASH TO WALTER MOSLEY



# Los Angeles In Fiction A Collection Of Essays

**Judith Kitchen, Dinah Lenney**



## **Los Angeles In Fiction A Collection Of Essays:**

*Los Angeles in Fiction* David M. Fine, 1984      **The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of Los Angeles** Kevin R. McNamara, 2010-05-06 Diverse vibrant and challenging as the city itself this Companion is the definitive guide to LA in literature      **Crime Fiction** John Scaggs, 2005-01-14 Crime Fiction provides a lively introduction to what is both a wide ranging and hugely popular literary genre Using examples from a variety of novels short stories films and televisions series John Scaggs presents a concise history of crime fiction from biblical narratives to James Ellroy broadening the genre to include revenge tragedy and the gothic novel explores the key sub genres of crime fiction such as Rational Criminal Investigation The Hard Boiled Mode The Police Procedural and Historical Crime Fiction locates texts and their recurring themes and motifs in a wider social and historical context outlines the various critical concepts that are central to the study of crime fiction including gender narrative theory and film theory considers contemporary television series like C S I Crime Scene Investigation alongside the classic whodunnits of Agatha Christie Accessible and clear this comprehensive overview is the essential guide for all those studying crime fiction and concludes with a look at future directions for the genre in the twentieth first century      [A Companion to the Regional Literatures of America](#) Charles L. Crow, 2008-04-15 The Blackwell Companion to American Regional Literature is the most comprehensive resource yet published for study of this popular field The most inclusive survey yet published of American regional literature Represents a wide variety of theoretical and historical approaches Surveys the literature of specific regions from California to New England and from Alaska to Hawaii Discusses authors and groups who have been important in defining regional American literature      **American Women Writing Fiction** Mickey Pearlman, 2014-10-17 American literature is no longer the refuge of the solitary hero Like the society it mirrors it is now a far richer many faceted explication of a complicated and diverse society racially culturally and ethnically interwoven and at the same time fractured and fractious Ten women writing fiction in America today Toni Cade Bambara Joan Didion Louise Erdrich Gail Godwin Mary Gordon Alison Lurie Joyce Carol Oates Jayne Anne Phillips Susan Fromberg Schaeffer and Mary Lee Settle represent that geographic ethnic and racial diversity that is distinctively American Their differing perspectives on literature and the American experience have produced Erdrich s stolid North Dakota plainwomen Didion s sun baked dreamers and screamers the urban ethnics Irish Jewish and black of Gordon Schaeffer and Bambara Oates s small town often violent neurotics Lurie s intellectual sophisticates and the southern survivors and victims male and female of Phillips Settle and Godwin The ten original essays in this collection focus on the traditional themes of identity memory family and enclosure that pervade the fiction of these writers The fictional women who emerge here as these critics show are often caught in the interwoven strands of memory perceive literal and emotional space as entrapping find identity elusive and frustrating and experience the interweaving of silence solitude and family in complex patterns Each essay in this collection is followed by bibliographies of works by and about the writer in question that will be invaluable

resources for scholars and general readers alike Here is a readable critical discussion of ten important contemporary novelists who have broadened the pages of American literature to reflect more clearly the people we are *Imagining Los Angeles* David Fine,2016-06-01 The literary image of Los Angeles has evolved since the 1880s from promotional literature that hyped the region as a New Eden to contemporary visions of the city as a perplexing sometimes corrupt even apocalyptic place that reflects all that is wrong with America In *Imagining Los Angeles* the first literary history of the city in more than fifty years critic David Fine traces the history and mood of the place through the work of writers as diverse as Helen Hunt Jackson Mary Austin Norman Mailer Raymond Chandler Joan Didion Carolyn See and many others His lively and engaging text focuses on the way these writers saw Los Angeles and used the image of the city as an element in their work and on how that image has changed as the city itself became ever larger more complex and more socially and ethnically diverse This is essential reading for anyone interested in the literature and changing image of Southern California **Rockstar Games**

**and American History** Esther Wright,2022-08-22 For two decades Rockstar Games have been making games that interrogate and represent the idea of America past and present Commercially successful fan beloved and a frequent source of media attention Rockstar s franchises are positioned as not only game changing ground breaking interventions in the games industry but also as critical cultural histories on America and its excesses But what does Rockstar s version of American history look like and how is it communicated through critically acclaimed titles like *Red Dead Redemption* 2010 and *L A Noire* 2011 By combining analysis of Rockstar s games and a range of official communications and promotional materials this book offers critical discussion of Rockstar as a company their video games and ultimately their attempts at creating new narratives about U S history and culture It explores the ways in which Rockstar s brand identity and their titles coalesce to create a new kind of video game history how promotional materials work to claim the authenticity of these products and assert the authority of game developers to perform the role of historian By working at the intersection of historical game studies U S history and film and media studies this book explores what happens when contemporary demands for historical authenticity are brought to bear on the way we envisage the past and whose past it is deemed to be Ultimately this book implores those who research historical video games to consider the oft forgotten sources at the margins of these games as importance spaces where historical meaning is made and negotiated Watch our book talk with the author Esther Wright here [https://youtu.be/AaC\\_9XsXCQ](https://youtu.be/AaC_9XsXCQ)

**The Best American Essays 2014** John Jeremiah Sullivan,2014-10-07 The acclaimed author of *Pulphhead* collects 21 of the year s most urgent and at times painfully truthful pieces of nonfiction published in the U S Publishers Weekly starred review In our age of trigger warnings and jeopardized free expression *The Best American Essays 2014* does not shy away from shocking extremes ambiguities or dualities As guest editor John Jeremiah Sullivan notes the essay assumes many two sided forms and these diverse pieces capture all the conceptions of what an essay can be the loose and the strict the flourish and the finished the try and the trial Sullivan s choices embrace the high and the low the memoirist

s confession and the journalist's reportage and all the gray area in between From a hotel in Mongolia to a Clockwork Orange like Baltimore from a Rome emergency room to Burning Man these diverse pieces surprise and entertain inform and titillate The Best American Essays 2014 includes entries by Kristin Dombek Dave Eggers Leslie Jamison Ariel Levy Yiyun Li Barry Lopez Zadie Smith Wells Tower Emily Fox Gordon James Wood and others **American Studies** Jack Salzman, 1990-05-25 This volume supplements the acclaimed three volume set published in 1986 and consists of an annotated listing of American Studies monographs published between 1984 and 1988 There are more than 6 000 descriptive entries in a wide range of categories anthropology and folklore art and architecture history literature music political science popular culture psychology religion science and technology and sociology **An Interethnic Companion to Asian American Literature** King-Kok Cheung, 1997 A survey of Asian American literature *Afterlives of Abandoned Work* Matthew Harle, 2018-12-27 *Afterlives of Abandoned Work* considers the relevance of unfinished projects to literary history and criticism looking beyond famous posthumous work to investigate the abandoned everyday from scrapped plans and rejected ideas to half written novels or unfinished artistic works It traces how the reading of abandoned creative endeavor whether arriving in the form of a rejection letter a disagreement with a collaborator or the simple act of walking away from one's desk can change the way we think about cultural production the creative process and the intellectual construction of everyday life Over five distinct journeys through a variety of archives from major research libraries to the unique collections of individual enthusiasts Matthew Harle draws surprising connections between literary studies media studies and visual arts exploring unfinished projects from Thomas Pynchon Muriel Spark B S Johnson Harold Pinter and others Rooted in literary criticism *Afterlives of Abandoned Work* reads unbuilt buildings unfilmed screenplays and unpublished novels and radio sketches as forms of text that can help us consider the enduring fragmentation and anecdotal construction of cultural form as well as expand literary criticism's approach to the archive *Promised Lands* David M. Wrobel, 2002 Whether seen as a land of opportunity or as paradise lost the American West took shape in the nation's imagination with the help of those who wrote about it but two groups who did much to shape that perception are often overlooked today Promoters trying to lure settlers and investors to the West insisted that the frontier had already been tamed that the only frontiers remaining were those of opportunity Through posters pamphlets newspaper articles and other printed pieces these boosters literally imagined places into existence by depicting backwater areas as settled culturally developed regions where newcomers would find none of the hardships associated with frontier life Quick on their heels some of the West's original settlers had begun publishing their reminiscences in books and periodicals and banding together in pioneer societies to sustain their conception of frontier heritage Their selective memory focused on the savage wilderness they had tamed exaggerating the past every bit as much as promoters exaggerated the present Although they are generally seen today as unscrupulous charlatans and tellers of tall tales David Wrobel reveals that these promoters and reminiscers were more significant than their detractors have suggested

By exploring the vast literature produced by these individuals from the end of the Civil War through the 1920s he clarifies the pivotal impact of their works on our vision of both the historic and mythic West In examining their role in forging both sense of place within the West and the nation s sense of the West as a place Wrobel shows that these works were vital to the process of identity formation among westerners themselves and to the construction of a West in the national imagination Wrobel also sheds light on the often elitist sometimes racist legacies of both groups through their characterizations of Native Americans African Americans Mexican Americans and Asian Americans In the era Wrobel examines promoters painted the future of each western place as if it were already present while the old timers preserved the past as if it were still present But as he also demonstrates that West has not really changed much promoters still tout its promise while old timers still try to preserve their selective memories Even relatively recent western residents still tap into the region s mythic pioneer heritage as they form their attachments to place Promised Lands shows us that the West may well move into the twenty first century but our images of it are forever rooted in the nineteenth

**Books and Notes of the Los Angeles County Free Library** Los Angeles County Public Library,1928 **Historical Dictionary of U.S. Latino Literature** Francisco A.

Lomelí,Donaldo W. Urioste,María Joaquina Villaseñor,2016-12-27 U S Latino Literature is defined as Latino literature within the United States that embraces the heterogeneous inter groupings of Latinos For too long U S Latino literature has not been thought of as an integral part of the overall shared American literary landscape but that is slowly changing This dictionary aims to rectify some of those misconceptions by proving that Latinos do fundamentally express American issues concerns and perspectives with a flair in linguistic cadences familial themes distinct world views and cross cultural voices The Historical Dictionary of U S Latino Literature contains a chronology an introduction and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has cross referenced entries on U S Latino a authors and terms relevant to the nature of U S Latino literature in order to illustrate and corroborate its foundational bearings within the overall American literary experience This book is an excellent access point for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about this subject

**Reader's Guide to Women's Studies** Eleanor Amico,1998-03-20 The Reader s Guide to Women s Studies is a searching and analytical description of the most prominent and influential works written in the now universal field of women s studies Some 200 scholars have contributed to the project which adopts a multi layered approach allowing for comprehensive treatment of its subject matter Entries range from very broad themes such as Health General Works to entries on specific individuals or more focused topics such as Doctors

**Men Alone** Jopi Nyman,2022-02-28 This study examines masculinity and individualism in four American novels of the 1920s and 1930s usually regarded as belonging to the genre of hard boiled fiction The novels under study are Red Harvest by Dashiell Hammett The Postman Always Rings Twice by James M Cain They Shoot Horses Don t They by Horace McCoy and To Have and Have Not by Ernest Hemingway In this first full length study of gender in hard boiled fiction the genre is discussed as a representation of the ideologies of masculinity and individualism Hard boiled

fiction is located in its historical and cultural context and it is argued that the genre with its explicit emphasis on masculinity and masculine virtues attempts to reaffirm a masculine order. The study argues that this emphasis is a counter reaction to more general changes in the gender relations of the period. Indeed hard boiled fiction is argued to be an attempt to reconstruct a masculine identity based on anti modern values generally accepted in the cultural context of the genre.

The Dream Endures Kevin Starr, 1997. The fifth volume in Starr's classic history of California. The Dream Endures shows how Californians rebounded from the Great Depression to emerge in the 1930s into what is now known as the good life. Starr illustrates the ways the good life prospered in California in film, fiction, leisure and architecture. Starr looks at the newly important places where Californians lived out this sunny lifestyle: areas like Los Angeles where Hollywood lived, Palm Springs where Hollywood vacationed, San Diego where the Navy went, the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena where Einstein changed his view of the universe and college towns like Berkeley. In this more than any other of Starr's monumental California histories we see the stirrings of uniqueness in the social and cultural evolution of California. Starr's theme is relevant to all of America and the national destiny.

Neil Morgan, San Diego Union Tribune. Enormously sensitive and moving. Social and cultural history doesn't get any better. San Francisco Chronicle. In his monumental continuing study of California Kevin Starr belongs in the company of the best. Herbert Gold, Los Angeles Times Book Review.

Memory and the Built Environment in 20th-Century American Literature Alice Levick, 2021-05-20. From the paving of the Los Angeles River in 1938 and the creation of the G I Bill in 1944 to the construction of the Interstate Highway System during the late 1950s and the brownstoning movement of the 1970s throughout the mid 20th century the United States saw a wave of changes that had an enduring impact on the development of urban spaces. Focusing on the relationship between processes of demolition and restoration as they have shaped the modern built environment and the processes by which memory is constructed, hidden or remade in the literary text, this book explores the ways in which history becomes entangled with the urban space in which it plays out. Alice Levick takes stock of this history both in the form of its externalised concretised manifestation and its more symbolic representation as depicted in the mid 20th century work of a selection of American writers. Calling upon access to archival material and interviews with New York academics, authors, local historians and urban planners, this book locates Freud's Uncanny in the cracks between the absent and present, invisible and visible memory and history as they are presented in city narratives demonstrating both the passage of time and the imposition of 20th century modernism. With reference to the works of D J Waldie, Joan Didion, Hisaye Yamamoto, Raymond Chandler, Marshall Berman, Gil Cuadros, Paule Marshall, L J Davis and Paula Fox, Memory and the Built Environment in 20th Century American Literature unpacks how time becomes visible in Los Angeles, Sacramento, Lakewood and New York in the decades just before and after the Second World War, questioning how these spaces provide access to the past in both narrative and spatial forms and how at times this access is blocked.

**The Reinterpretation of American Literature** Norman Foerster, 1928. *Time Out Los Angeles*, 2001.

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